

UNITED STATES FORCES, JAPAN
FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE
OKINAWA BUREAU
APO SAN FRANCISCO 96239

MOK-6019
3 December 1986

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service

THROUGH: Chief, Operations Group, FBIS

FROM: [redacted]
Acting Chief, Okinawa Bureau, FBIS

SUBJECT: Monthly Report - Okinawa Bureau - November 1986

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I. GENERAL

A. The first visit by new FBIS Director [redacted] to an FBIS field bureau, Okinawa from 6-8 November, coincided with a historic change-of-command ceremony at Marine Corps Base Camp Butler. Maj Gen James L. Day, who came ashore in the battle for Okinawa in April 1945 as a 19-year-old Marine corporal, retired and handed over his command to Brig Gen Henry C. Stackpole III at ceremonies attended by [redacted] and bureau chief [redacted] on 6 November. The ceremonies were televised on the U.S. Forces Far East Network the next day, showing footage of our new FBIS Director and the [redacted] in protocol front ranks. General Day, who served seven tours on Okinawa, was featured in several newspaper articles in November, and ranked as the oldest active duty U.S. Marine officer serving when he retired.

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B. Director [redacted] met major U.S. military commanders on Okinawa at the formal reception for General Day, was briefed on U.S. military forces on Okinawa by Lt Col Chris Tragakis, secretary for the Okinawa Area Coordinator of U.S. Forces Japan, on 7 November, had a bureau orientation and tour, and was honor guest at a reception hosted by the bureau chief and [redacted] for some 200 military, FBIS, and Okinawan guests.

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C. Bureau efforts to ensure that the U.S. Army Communications command coordinates with the Japanese Defense Facilities Administration Board and the Yomitan mayor on the planned microwave tower facility across the road from the operations building have apparently borne fruit at last. We were advised that DFAB has now seen the army plans, visited the bureau to survey and photograph the site, and DFAB will arrange a meeting with Mayor Yamauchi to explain the project and minimize any local opposition. Our liaison contact hopes that work might begin in 2-4 weeks, or the contract will have to be renegotiated because of contractor commitments and funding.

D. Bureau Chief [redacted] departed Okinawa on 29 November for Washington, D.C., where he will undergo hospitalization and treatment for a medical problem suddenly discovered in November. He will be absent from Okinawa at least one month, possibly two, depending upon the course of treatment.

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II. OPERATIONS

A. Monitorial/Editorial

1. A Chinese monitor recruiting TDY trip to Taipei by Chief Editor [] and Chief Monitor [] yielded three first-ranked candidates--one woman and two men--and two backup candidates including a Chinese applicant with Tagalog as well from the Philippines. Tentative job offer letters for the top three have been sent. The recruiting trip was enlivened by Taipei's worst earthquake since 1920, which caused extensive damage in the city and some deaths, but only minor damage to their hotel.

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2. Okinawa became heavily involved in Seoul Bureau's coverage area starting with the 15-16 November weekend, after ultimately false South Korean reports that North Korea's leader Kim Il-song had been assassinated or died. We filed flash messages from Japanese and Chinese media mostly tending to deny Kim's death. Okinawa provided the best visual proof Kim still lived from Tokyo NHK TV, a Pyongyang TV feed on the USSR's 140 East satellite, and a KCNA radiophoto, all sent Express Mail to Headquarters. Our videotape footage included several new shots showing Kim's large goiter/tumor on his neck as he greeted Mongolian leader Batmonh's arrival in Pyongyang--detailed photos usually censored out of North Korean media. Okinawa shared in C/Ops' commendation to Seoul.

3. The bureau was better staffed to handle a second potential Seoul operational problem with a planned mass rally on 29 November by the opposition NKDP, when ailing senior Japanese/Korean monitor [] returned to full duty 25 November. Luckily, Okinawa's backup was not required when the rally was canceled in the face of large police cordons.

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4. A minor adjustment to the Okinawa-London/BBC Soviet television coverage understanding of November 1984 was made, with Okinawa promising regular coverage of the "Acceleration" feature that replaced an Okinawa-covered feature no longer telecast. We resumed filing weekly FYI's on ad hoc coverage outside the agreed programs, a practice that had fallen into disuse because few such programs appeared on our satellites.

5. A bureau proposal to rationalize Beijing satellite TV coverage by recording both evening newscasts on one tape sent by Express Mail under the "Cities" project did not succeed with Hqs consumers, but we did ascertain consumers' needs better. We now send consolidated PRC leadership tapes no later than 7 days after broadcast, and have combined two daily newscasts on one tape. A potential Hong Kong take-back for three days due to planned Okinawa ROSET maintenance was canceled when our ROSET parts proved to be all the wrong size and the maintenance was postponed.

6. Followup reporting related to Beijing's late October halting of "reverse-tape" Russian shortwave broadcasts to the USSR, including a KYODO report Moscow had stopped jamming Beijing broadcasts and cruising checks to confirm noninterference, formed the basis for a 13 November Analysis Group item highlighting the change as part of a gradual improvement in Sino-Soviet relations. AG said "Thank you very much" for the initiative.

B. Cruising

1. Continuing efforts to locate the reported Chinese satellite press facsimile transmissions on the 63 E Intelsat proved fruitless. Although we have the supposed transponder frequencies used by Beijing, we do not have the transmission time, and we suspect the Chinese may be using a transmission format that our new AFP-fax unit cannot process or break out.

2. Major project of the month was completing fall/winter frequency change checks on Moscow and Tokyo international services, Beijing domestic minority service and the Vladivostok maritime service; cruising messages were all prepared on computer floppy disk, saving our communicators the rekeying of long frequency/time lists.

3. We used the small PESOS ROSET dish to intercept Pyongyang television feeds to Mongolia and Moscow three days in a row on the Soviet 140 E satellite, related to Mongolian leader Batmonh's Pyongyang visit just after the false "assassination" rumors about Kim Il-song. In another crisis backup, Okinawa was able to intercept a Japanese TV feed from Manila when President Aquino spoke after Defense Minister Enrile was fired and her cabinet resigned, and we filed corrections/fills for the speech text filed by Hong Kong from a Philippines radio. Okinawa's rechecks confirm that reception of Philippines radios remains poor here.

C. Lateral Services

We provided still photos for Seoul Bureau and its local consumers of North Korean People's Army General Cho from a Beijing satellite newscast--evidently Beijing is more open and systematic about identifying KPA generals than Pyongyang TV. We passed to LRB a request from the U.S. Defense Liaison Office in Hong Kong to stop receiving Beijing VSLs, but to continue other FBIS services. An exchange of messages with LRB helped clarify OW coverage and processing of Moscow Mandarin for a Hqs consumer with an avid interest in Moscow Mandarin versions of Soviet space materials; we noted that in one case this "savvy" consumer had ordered a Moscow Mandarin version of a Soviet space item already processed 4 times from other Moscow sources. At request, we provided telephoned updates on Kim Il-song to the Okinawa Field Office of the 500th Military Intelligence Group, headquartered at Camp Zama, including the first authoritative media reports disproving ROK rumors that Kim had been assassinated.

D. Technical

1. The new secure communications room construction was completed with the installation of a heat pump, and it is ready for new equipment and training on the new system, scheduled for mid-January.

2. Engineering efforts to renew the elevation and azimuth struts and drives on our 10-meter ROSET dish had to be postponed on 10 November when all parts for renewal proved to be the wrong size. FED/FSB is researching the problem to find the right parts.

3. Three MLC technicians are now fully trained on the AFP-fax equipment regularly used for KCNA and VNA radiophotos and occasionally for Hanoi NHAN DAN newspaper format pages when checked on a spot basis. Replacement circuit boards from Hqs have solved intermittent malfunction problems.

4. Increased use of the BACH and STedit communications header programs has led to further training in an alternate wordprocessing program, AITypist. Several teletypists, two monitors and an administrative assistant have learned AITypist, which they find easier to use than other text editors available at the bureau.

5. Test demonstrations of Japanese facsimile equipment suitable for transmitting and receiving between OW and Washington and Hong Kong Bureau began on 26 November, with an NEC model that Hqs reported gave excellent results. Other models will be evaluated before we make a choice, depending on operational needs now under Hqs study in regard to Hong Kong Bureau's editorial workload.

III. ADMINISTRATION

A. Personnel

1. Chief editor [] was promoted to GS-14 and TDY editorial trainee [] to GS-8, both effective 9 November.

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2. Chinese senior monitor [] departed Okinawa for retirement in the United States on 28 November after 16 years at the bureau. [] was honored by 45 of his colleagues and friends at a Skoshi KOOM retirement party on 1 November. He received a letter from D/FBIS, a Certificate of Merit, and responded by singing a Peking Opera selection he had personally composed in honor of the event.

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3. Japanese/Korean monitor [] returned to full duty 25 November after extended medical treatment in Seoul and at Okinawa's Camp Lester navy hospital.

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4. [] wife of editor [] began work on 25 November as the second bureau part-time secretary, and will handle all the responsibilities mid-December to mid-January when [] is on R&R leave in the U.S.

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B. Other

Press reports in late November noted a Bank of Japan announcement that appreciation of the Japanese yen against the U.S. dollar that began in September 1985 has "ended." The rate in fact stabilized at or above 160 yen to \$1.00 throughout November, and if in fact it remains at this level this should offer some relief to our FY1987 budget, which was updated at 150 to \$1.00 in July 1986. We are watching this closely.

PO/RA
Note

IV. VISITORS

To the Bureau:

Brig Gen Keith B. Connolly, 313th Air Division commander, and his aide, Captain Slater, 5 November for bureau briefing and tour; Lt Col Travis Griffin, commander of the First Battalion, First Special Forces Group, Torii Station, accompanied by Lt Col Chris Tragakis, 10 November for bureau orientation; Washington publications acquisitions officer Judith Brennen, on 11 November for tour and briefing; Joe W. Talley, special agent, 500th MI Group Okinawa Field Office, on 18 November for information on rumored Kim Il-song assassination.

From the Bureau:

Administrative Officer [] returned to Okinawa 20 November from Headquarters TDY in connection with medical escort duties since 25 October; Regional Engineer [] TDYed to Yokota Air Base and the Autodin Switching Center 18-21 November for its annual tributary seminar.

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V. COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

FBIS was well represented at the Torii Station fifth annual triathlon on 1 November, with Chinese monitor [] associate editor [] and senior editor [] all finishing well up in the pack. [] took first place honors for women in the over-42 division in a grueling 1-kilometer swim, 30-kilometer bicycle race and 10-kilometer run, while [] exceeded their personal goals in their first triathlon ever. The FBIS bowling league, the renowned "East China Sea Rollers," concluded its season on 29 November with a banquet at the Kadena Golf Course Tee House Restaurant. Winning team members [] [] had their names inscribed on the bureau trophy plaque.

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Attachments:

Engineering Equipment

ENGINEERING EQUIPMENT ATTACHMENT

Equipment Received : EXTEL Printer, MDL AF-11R, S/N 142585

EXTEL Printer, MDL AF-11R, S/N 37564

Equipment Transferred : None

Equipment Disposal : None

OKINAWA BUREAU PRODUCTION REPORT FOR NOVEMBER 1986

I. TOTALS FROM ALL SOURCES:

TOTAL PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH: 1,043,800
 TOTAL NON-PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH: 575,300
 TOTAL NUMBER OF PUBLISHABLE ITEMS FILED DURING MONTH: 3,662

 II. INPUT OF REGULAR COVERAGE:
 (minutes or issues per week)

BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
21,290 min.	20,700 min.	175.79 issues

III. OUTPUT FROM ALL SOURCES:

CAMBODIA

Phnom Penh SPK in
 English

680

CHINA

Beijing International Service to East and South Africa in English	---
Beijing International Service to North America in English	---
Beijing International Service in Japanese	2,380
Beijing International Service in Mandarin	---
Beijing to Taiwan in Mandarin	1,080
Beijing to the USSR in Russian	6,140
Beijing to Vietnam in Vietnamese	2,090
Beijing Domestic Service in Mandarin	9,010
Beijing Television Service in Mandarin	230
Fuzhou Fujian Provincial Service in Mandarin	1,510
Hangzhou Zhejiang Provincial Service in Mandarin	4,020
Hefei Anhui Provincial Service in Mandarin	4,180
Manchang Jiangxi Provincial Service in Mandarin	3,290
Nanjing Jiangsu Provincial Service in Mandarin	3,390

	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
Shanghai City Service in Mandarin	4,340		
Beijing XINHUA in English		526,110	
Beijing XINHUA Domestic Service in Chinese		96,340	
Beijing BEIJING REVIEW in English			4,430
Fuzhou FUJIAN RIBAO in Chinese			5,330
Hefei ANHUI RIBAO in Chinese			390
Hangzhou ZHEJIANG RIBAO in Chinese			1,460
Nanjing XINHUA RIBAO in Chinese			250
Shanghai JIEFANG RIBAO in Chinese			2,840
Shanghai WEN HUI BAO in Chinese			2,230
Miscellaneous Editorial Reports	1,010		
 CLANDESTINE (Clandestine) Ba Yi Radio to China in Mandarin	 750		
 JAPAN Naha Radio NHK in Japanese	 ---		
Tokyo NHK Television Network in Japanese	6,870		
Tokyo JPS in English		2,280	
Tokyo KYODO in English		132,140	
Tokyo JLI in English		7,250	
Tokyo AKAHATA in Japanese			1,660
Tokyo ASAHI SHIMBUN in Japanese			3,950
Tokyo ASAHI EVENING NEWS in English			4,990
Tokyo JAPAN ECONOMIC JOURNAL in English			1,260
Tokyo MAINICHI DAILY NEWS in English			3,490

	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
Tokyo MAINICHI SHIMBUN in Japanese			2,190
Tokyo NIHON KEIZAI SHIMBUN in Japanese			4,110
Tokyo SANKEI SHIMBUN in Japanese			4,120
Tokyo THE DAILY YOMIURI in English			3,860
Tokyo THE JAPAN TIMES in English			5,190
Tokyo TOKYO SHIMBUN in Japanese			---
Tokyo YOMIURI SHIMBUN in Japanese			4,110
Naha OKINAWA TIMES in Japanese			---
Naha RYUKYU SHIMPO in Japanese			---
KOREA (NORTH) Pyongyang KCNA in English		3,610	
LAOS Vientiane KPL in English		1,900	
MONGOLIA Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in English		---	
Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in Russian		12,720	
TAIWAN Taipei International Service in English	2,980		
Taipei Domestic Service in Mandarin	1,950		
Taipei CNA in English		20,980	
Taipei CHINA POST in English			5,130
Taipei CHING CHI JIH PAO in Chinese			---
Taipei CHUNG KUO SHIH PAO in Chinese			---
Taipei CHUNG YANG JIH PAO in Chinese			2,810

	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
Taipei LIEN HO PAO in Chinese			5,330
Taipei TZU LI WAN PAO in Chinese			---
UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS			
Moscow to Japan in Japanese	3,540		
Moscow to Southeast Asia in Mandarin	210		
Moscow to China in Mandarin	6,280		
Moscow to Vietnam in Vietnamese	2,700		
Moscow Radio Peace and Progress to China in Mandarin	4,440		
Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian	26,580		
Khabarovsk Domestic Service in Russian	850		
Vladivostok Domestic Service in Russian	810		
VIETNAM			
Hanoi International Service in Mandarin	2,140		
Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese	5,150		
Hanoi VNA in English		62,740	
Hanoi VNA in French		---	